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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Soviet and Chinese Communist Exit Procedures from Harbin for Expatriate Russians	DATE DISTR.	25 January 1954
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1. [redacted] expatriate Russian applicants for exit permits from Harbin were required to obtain clearance from the Soviet Consulate and permission to leave from Chinese authorities as represented by the Public Security Department (DOB) (sic).¹ 25X1
2. Expatriate Russians obtained clearance from the Soviet Consulate in the following manner:
 - a. The applicant first applied for clearance to leave at the local Soviet Citizens' Association (SCA).² Prior to making application he must have liquidated all debts. The applicant was instructed to return in two or three weeks.
 - b. On returning to the SCA, the applicant was given a date on which he must present himself at the Soviet Consulate.
 - c. At the Soviet Consulate the applicant was asked his reasons for leaving and his destination. He was also requested to reconsider his departure. If the applicant persisted in his desire to leave, he was required to submit a written report containing the reasons for his leaving and his destination, after which he was told to await a decision which would be forwarded to him through the SCA.
3. Permission to leave China was obtained by expatriate Russians from Chinese authorities in Harbin in the following manner:
 - a. The applicant presented himself to the Chinese Public Security Department to make application for an exit visa. He must present his Soviet Consulate clearance at this time. In one case, the Chinese authorities required that the applicant produce written confirmation from his employer that there was no objection to his resigning from his job.

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- b. After the application was approved, the Chinese authorities issued an exit visa to the applicant.
4. Generally, Chinese authorities in Harbin did not object to the departure of expatriate Russians. The Soviet Consulate, however, was most reluctant to issue the necessary clearances. [redacted] the Soviet Consulate in Harbin showed a marked indifference to act on applications for clearance and when refusing to approve applications gave no reason for so doing. 25X1
5. Failure to obtain clearances resulted in severe hardships for many of the expatriate Russians who had given up their jobs and sold many of their possessions in expectation of leaving China in a short time. Because they were planning to leave China in a short time, many of the expatriate Russians also neglected to make preparations for the severe Manchurian winter since they were unwilling to purchase heavy clothes and stockpile coal. 25X1
1. [redacted] Comment. DOB are possibly the initials for the name of this organization in the Russian language. 25X1

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